



# Head Start Annual Report

2020-2021

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Western Dairyland receives Federal funds from the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families' Office of Head Start to provide services to **44** Early Head Start children and **445** Head Start children in Buffalo, Eau Claire, Jackson, and Trempealeau counties. Of the **445** Head Start children, **322** are served directly by Western Dairyland and **123** are served through a Delegate Contractual Agreement with the Eau Claire Area School District.

## HEAD START

Western Dairyland Head Start serves children ages three to five in eight half-day or full-day centers. Children enrolled in the half-day program option attend 3.5-hour morning or afternoon classes four days per week for a minimum of 128 days per year. The full-day program option offers classes four days per week for a total of 1,020 annual hours of classroom instruction.

All Head Start centers are licensed through the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

HEAD START CENTERS	# of Classrooms	PROGRAM OPTION	TOTAL ENROLLMENT
<b>BUFFALO COUNTY</b>			
Cochrane-Fountain City Early Learning Center	1	Full day	18 children
Naples Head Start Center	1	Full day	17 children
<b>EAU CLAIRE COUNTY</b>			
Altoona Early Education Center	2	Full day	32 children
Eau Claire Head Start Center	5	Full day	96 children
Truax Head Start Center	1	Virtual	30 children
<b>JACKSON COUNTY</b>			
Black River Falls Head Start Center	1	Full day	32 children
<b>TREMPEALEAU COUNTY</b>			
Arcadia Early Learning Center	2	Full day	34 children
Blair Head Start Center	1	Half-day	17 children
Independence Head Start Center	2	Full day	46 children
<b>TOTAL # OF CHILDREN SERVED</b>			<b>322 children</b>

## EARLY HEAD START

Our Early Head Start program serves infants and toddlers under the age of three, and pregnant women in a **home visiting** model. Families receive weekly home visits that promote the parents' ability to support their child's development. Twice a month, families are offered opportunities to attend socializations. During this time, participating children are engaged in age-appropriate activities while their parents are able to get to know one another and share parenting successes and challenges.

EARLY HEAD START	TOTAL ENROLLMENT
Buffalo County	11 children
Eau Claire County	11 children
Jackson County	11 children
Trempealeau County	11 children
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44 children</b>

## OUR MISSION

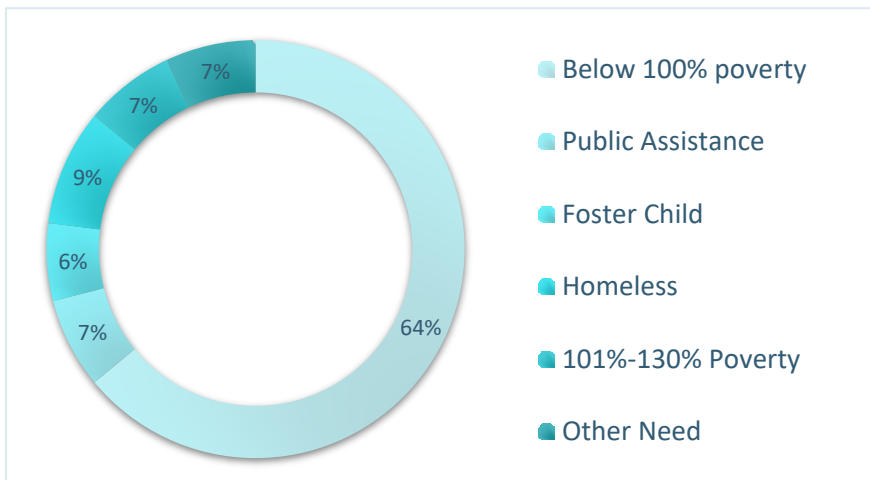
To educate and empower low-income children (pre-natal – 5 years) and families to reach their highest potential.

## OUR CORE VALUES

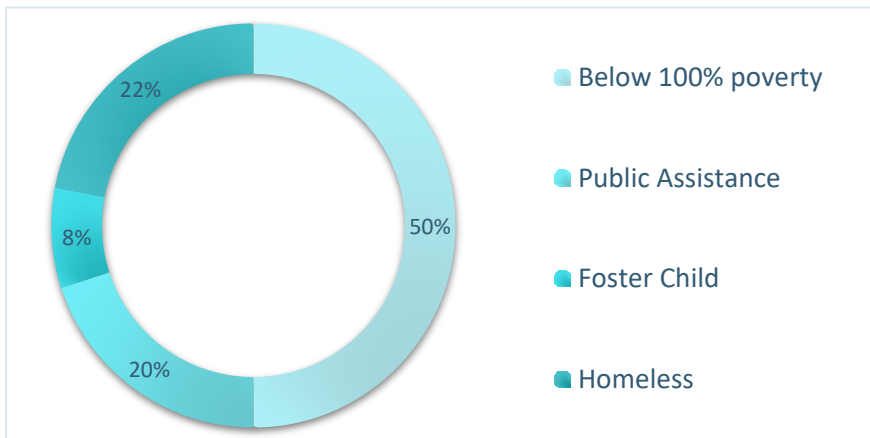
- We strive for **excellence** through **continuous improvement** and **best practices**.
- We treat everyone with **respect, compassion, and empathy**.
- We create **safe** and **nurturing high-quality** environments for children and staff.

## ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

### HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY ELIGIBILITY



### EARLY HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY ELIGIBILITY



*\*Due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, our classrooms had no more than 12 children in each classroom as a mitigation strategy to allow for adequate physical distancing*

## HEAD START

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED

202

TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED

179

AVERAGE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT

65%\*

## EARLY HEAD START

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN SERVED

48

TOTAL NUMBER OF PREGNANT WOMEN SERVED

3

TOTAL NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED

42

# FUNDING SOURCES

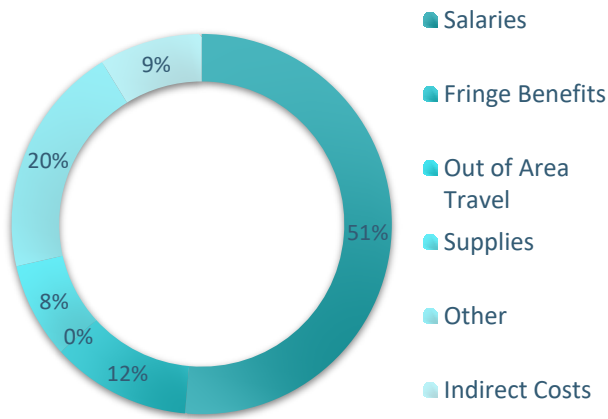
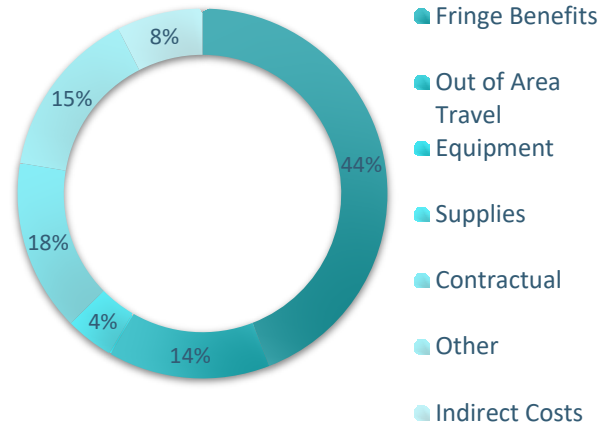
## PROGRAM REVENUES

Funding Sources	Amount
Federal Head Start	\$6,058,583.00
Federal Early Head Start	\$562,441.00
Federal CARES Funding	\$368,237.00
Wisconsin Head Start Supplemental – Department of Public Instruction	\$157,944.00
USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program	\$107,080.00
Community Services Block Grant	\$40,000.00
Eau Claire Area School District - 4K Reimbursement	\$79,459.05
Independence School District – 4K Reimbursement	\$24,000.00
Mondovi School District – 4K Reimbursement	\$15,200.00
In-Kind Contributions (Non-Federal Share)	\$898,257.37
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,549,744.05</b>

## PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

### FEDERAL HEAD START

Budget Line Item	Budgeted	Expenditures
Salaries	\$2,743,795	\$2,607,795
Fringe Benefits	\$969,721	\$835,608
Out of Area Travel	\$9,525	\$355.20
Equipment	\$0	\$9,130
Supplies	\$186,300	\$248,690
Contractual	\$924,608	\$887,149
Other	\$763,304	\$876,692
Indirect Costs	\$461,330	\$445,160
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,058,583</b>	<b>\$5,910,580</b>



### FEDERAL EARLY HEAD START

Budget Line Item	Budgeted	Expenditures
Salaries	\$308,061	\$203,676
Fringe Benefits	\$95,925	\$47,002
Out of Area Travel	\$1,520	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$20,853	\$32,329
Contractual	\$0	\$0
Other	\$86,182	\$78,410
Indirect Costs	\$49,900	\$34,772
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$562,441</b>	<b>\$396,189</b>

# SCHOOL READINESS

## HEAD START APPROACH TO SCHOOL READINESS

The Head Start Approach to School Readiness means that **children are ready for school, families are ready to support their children's learning, and schools are ready for children.**

Western Dairyland **Head Start** utilizes the research-based **Creative Curriculum for Pre-school** which fully aligns with the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards and the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework. Creative Curriculum is designed to be able to meet the learning needs and interests of all children through an organized, developmental scope and sequence based on developmental progression and how children learn.

The **Early Head Start** program implements the research-based **Partners for a Healthy Baby** home visiting curriculum which has been nationally recognized to improve birth outcomes, reduce rates of child abuse, increase intervals between pregnancies, strengthen families, enhance child health and developmental outcomes, and support family stability and economic self-sufficiency.

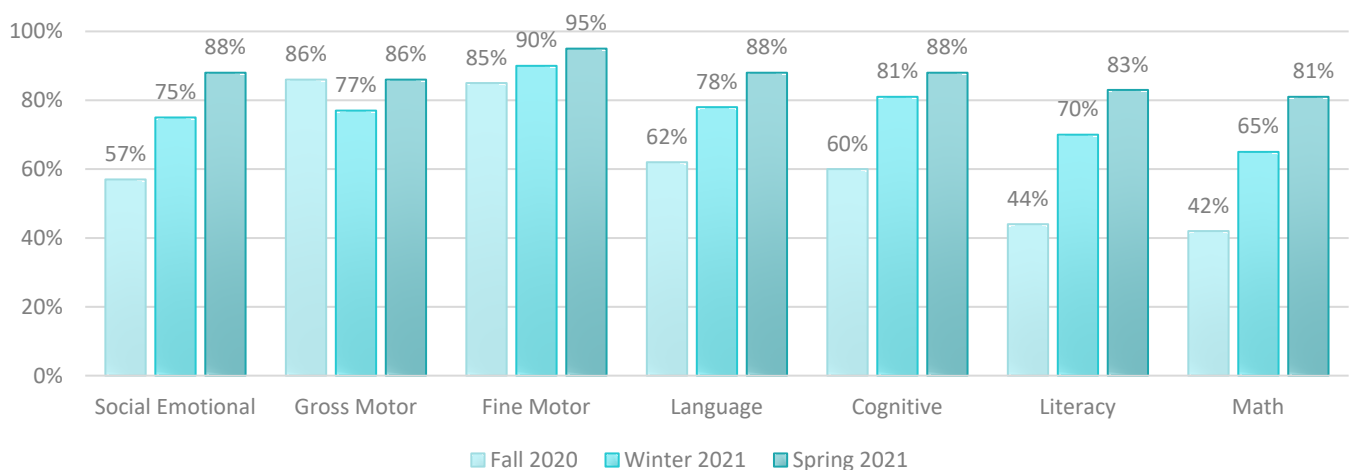
## SCHOOL READINESS OUTCOMES

Teaching Strategies Gold is a standardized structured assessment for each child that provides ongoing information to evaluate the child's developmental level and progress. A child's progress is formally assessed three times per year for Head Start and four times a year for Early Head Start. This information is shared with families and used for goal setting.

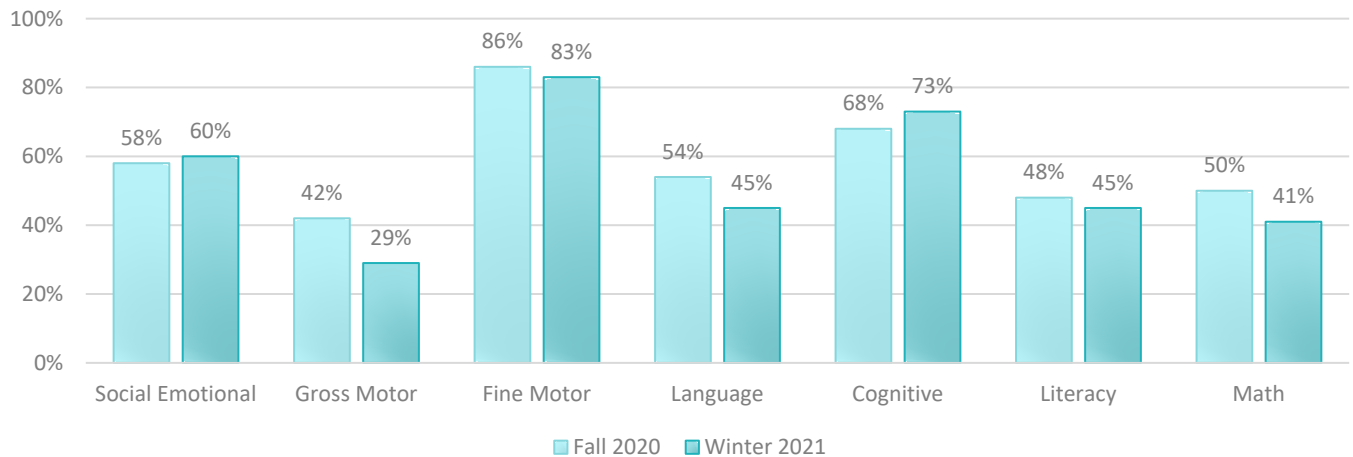
In **Head Start**, children made gains in all areas of development. The largest gains were made in Social Emotional (31% increase) Literacy (28% increase) and Math (39% increase).

In **Early Head Start** many factors impact child outcomes including a wide range of skills from birth to age three and that many skills fall in the Not Yet range on the continuum and are considered meeting widely held expectations. If a skill is not observed during the assessment, it is considered "met".

% of Head Start children meeting expectations



## % of Early Head Start children meeting expectations



## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

A strong parent-child relationship is essential to a child's healthy development, school readiness, and well-being. When families face challenges that cause stress, including poverty and homelessness, their health and wellness can be negatively impacted. Our family services staff and home visitors work closely with parents to connect them to resources and services in the communities they live in.

### POLICY COUNCIL

Policy Council members are Head Start parents who are elected by the parents of children who are currently enrolled in the program. The Policy Council is a unique aspect of Head Start program governance; it supports active parent engagement in the operation and design of the program such as:

- Review and approve funding applications
- Review and approve annual operating budgets
- Criteria for recruitment, selection, and enrollment

### FATHER ENGAGEMENT

Head Start has a strong history of prioritizing the engagement of fathers and male family members. Research shows that fathers tend to:

- Encourage more exploration and independent behavior in young children
- Use language that stretches and challenges children's language competency
- Use complementary discipline and parenting strategies



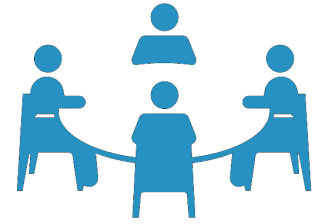
**105** fathers/father figures participated in father engagement activities in 2020-2021

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT



**115 families** received *crisis intervention* services, including food, clothing, or shelter

Western Dairyland Head Start utilizes the trauma-informed, evidence-based Conscious Discipline Parent Education Curriculum to engage parents as partners in building healthy, brain-smart families that help children grow and learn. The goal of parent and family engagement is to work with families to build strong and effective partnerships that can help children and families thrive, by using essential components of the Family Partnership process:



**221 families** received *parenting education* and *health education*

- Gathering and using information families share
- Assessing children and families
- Engaging in open and ongoing communication

As we build relationships and form strong partnerships with families, we can help families set goals and work together to achieve their goals and dreams for their children and their family.

## HEALTH SERVICES

Health and school readiness are closely linked. Children need to be healthy and safe to learn. Western Dairyland Head Start emphasizes the importance of early identification of health problems. We believe in promoting children's health and wellness as they support children's physical, mental, and social well-being. Our staff work closely with families to help establish or maintain access to ongoing, continuous health care for their children and promote healthy, safe behaviors in our centers and at home.



### PHYSICAL HEALTH



**79%** of Head Start children have up to date preventative and **primary health care**



**77%** of Early Head Start children have up to date preventative and **primary health care**



### ORAL HEALTH



**56%** of Head Start children have continuous access to **dental care**



**46%** of Early Head Start children have continuous access to **dental care**





## VISION & HEARING SCREENINGS

**99%** of children received **vision screening** using the Welch Allyn Spot Screener

**99%** of children received **hearing screening** using the Maico Ero Scan OAE Screener



## IMMUNIZATION

**96%** of Head Start children have up-to-date **immunizations**

**81%** of Early Head Start children have up-to-date **immunizations**



## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Early childhood mental health is the same as social and emotional well-being. Western Dairyland contracts with the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin for mental health consultation.

In 2020-2021, the mental health consultant provided **328.75 hours** of services including trainings, observations, and individual consultations to our children, families, and staff.

## FEDERAL REVIEWS AND FINANCIAL AUDIT

The Administration for Children and Families Office of Head Start (OHS) assesses grantee compliance through a monitoring system that is aligned with a comprehensive five-year continuous oversight plan. The Aligned Monitoring System ensures that all Head Start programs provide high-quality services to children and families by facilitating compliance with Head Start Program Performance Standards.



Fiscal Year	Review Area	Monitoring Dates			
2019	Focus Area One Monitoring Review	May 20-22, 2019 No Non-Compliances			
2021	Focus Area Two Monitoring Review	March 15-19, 2021 No Non-Compliances			
2021	Inappropriate child guidance incidents in Altoona on February 5 and February 16, 2021 – Self Reported to the Office of Head Start	Finding Type	Applicable Standards	Timeframe	Status
		Discipline	§1302.90(c)(1)(ii)(G)	120 days	Deficiency
		Reporting	§1302.102(d)(1)(ii)	120 days	Non-compliance
Quality Improvement Plan submitted to the Office of Head Start on May 20, 2021. A follow-up monitoring review was conducted on August 27, 2021. The Office of Head Start issued a report stating that the deficiency and non-compliance have been corrected.					



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## FINANCIAL AUDIT

The financial audit was conducted in April 2021 by an independent auditor, Wipfli LLP. No findings were issued.